



THE JANET S. MUNT  
**Family Room**  
Parent-Child Center

# 2024 Impact Report

*Strong Families. Healthy Children. Connected Communities*

**Dear Friends,**

*It is not easy to encapsulate what has happened in the past year at The Family Room. At the beginning of the year, I thought a lot about strengthening -- who we are, what do we need, and how do we do it. We have expanded our amazing staff by adding 6 talented people who have integrated so well into our community and our mission and are doing such important work. We have solidified ourselves as a trustworthy resource for our partners and the families we collectively serve.*

*Parent leadership has strengthened our mission by adding to our Board of Directors and firmly establishing our Family Advisory Council. This is only possible because of all of the support we receive from our community -- volunteers, students, donors, partners, Board members, and our families. **Thank you for ensuring the Family Room is strong so we can continue to be here in all of the ways we need to be.***



**Josh Miller,  
Executive Director**



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Vermont Humanities' Peter Burns offers story time in our baby room  
Photo Credit: Marion Pope

To learn more about The Family Room, visit [www.thefamilyroomvt.org](http://www.thefamilyroomvt.org)



## Our Mission

The Janet S. Munt Family Room is a place that builds healthy, connected communities by supporting families and young children.

## Our Vision

Every family is connected, healthy, and strong.

## Our Core Values

We believe in nurturing a strong sense of belonging.

We believe in treating each other with love and dignity.

We believe in the importance of community.

We believe in celebrating each other.





**12,394**  
Meals Served  
During Programs



**1,514**  
Caregivers and Children Participated  
in Programs at The Family Room



**10,000**  
Volunteer  
Hours  
Per Year



**60**  
Families Received  
Safe Car Seats



**23,375**  
Pounds of Food  
Distributed to Families  
Who are Participating  
in our Programs



**700**  
Home Visits  
Provided  
(HFS and Other Programs)



**62**  
Organizations We Collaborate  
With to Support our Families



**63**  
Countries of Origin  
Represented  
by Our Families



**45**  
Languages Spoken  
by Our Families



**29**  
Programs  
Offered



**36**  
Years Serving the  
Chittenden County  
Community

In 2024, the amount of food that we were able to distribute to families is less than it was for 2023. This is because we had a generous one-time grant in 2023 that helped boost our pantry that year.



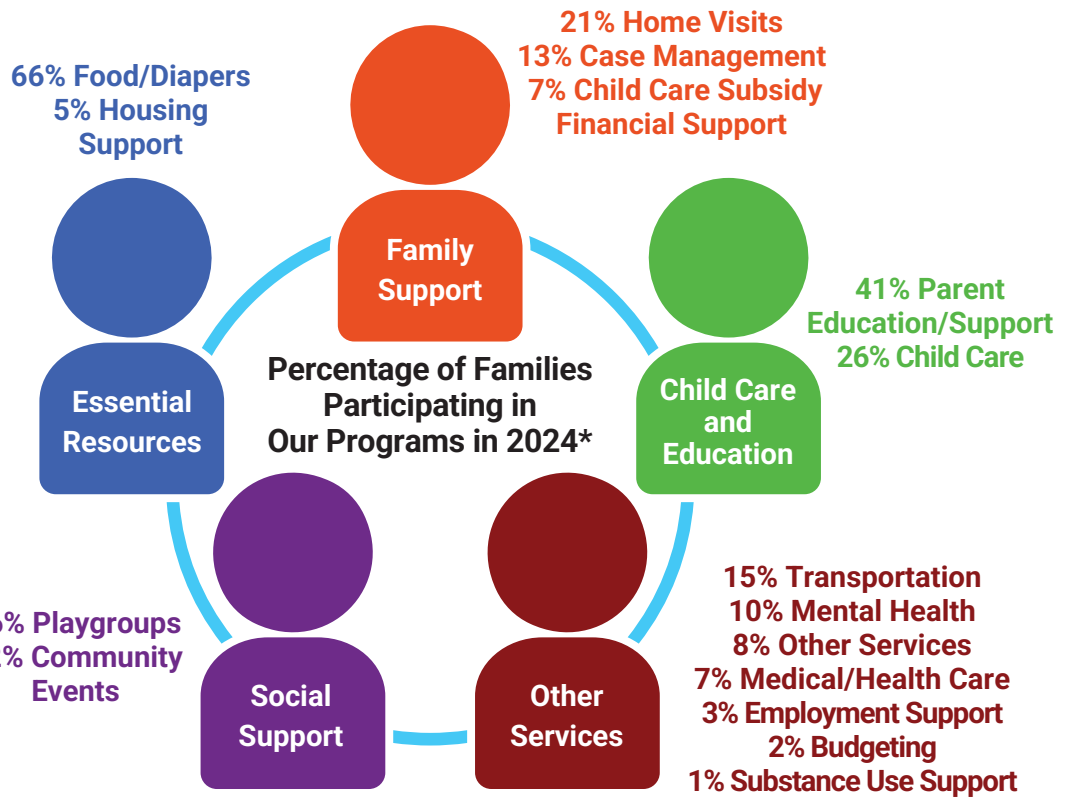
- 12** Families Serving on Family Advisory Council
- 2** New Board Members
- 6** New Staff Members
- 8** New or Expanded Programs

1. **DULCE**: Postpartum collaboration with Community Health Center (new)
2. **Community Orientation Program**: In collaboration with UVM Extension's Migrant Health programs - Bridges to Health (new)
3. **Talking Room**: Mental health support (new)
4. **Super Group** (expanded)
5. **Sensory Support Group** (pilot)
6. **Family Education Coordinator** (new position)
7. **Fathering Education Group** and **24/7 Dads** (expanded)
8. Building Strong Families Clinic's bilingual **Strengthening Family Worker** (new position)

# Our Impact by the Numbers

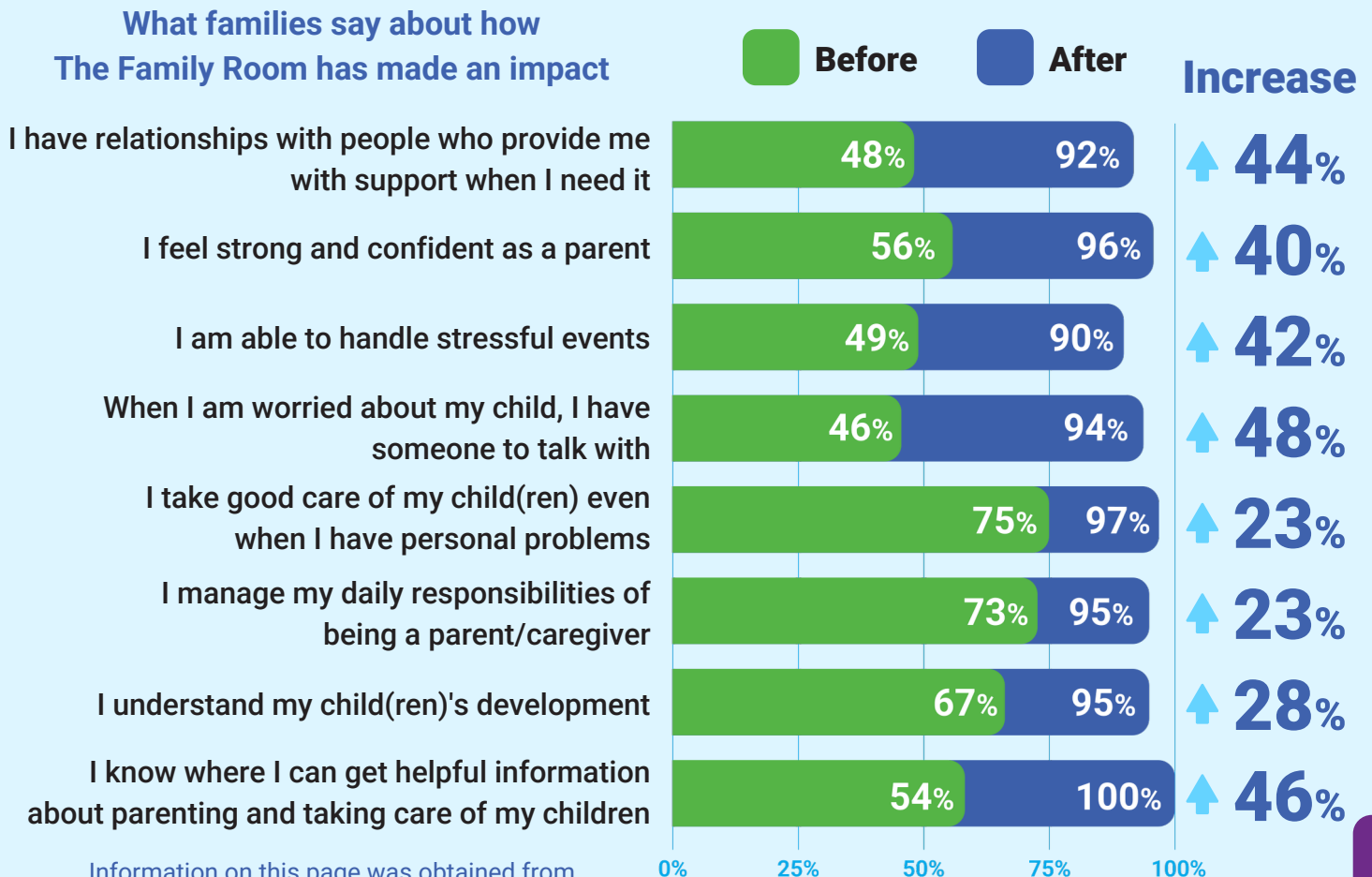
In 2024, our families reported using at least one of our services, with the majority seeking and receiving support from The Family Room across various areas.

These services were provided through our programs, and in collaboration with community partners and volunteers.



**\*Nearly all families participate in multiple services.**

## What families say about how The Family Room has made an impact



Information on this page was obtained from 2024 Parent-Child Center Network Surveys

# Our Impact by the Numbers

"The Family Room has been my social network and support group during my maternity leave, and I am grateful for all the staff and parents I meet here."  
-Family Room parent



97%

Believe staff members are welcoming and respectful

99%

Feel the support received had a positive impact on them and their families

96%

Reported to have received the help that was right for them

98%

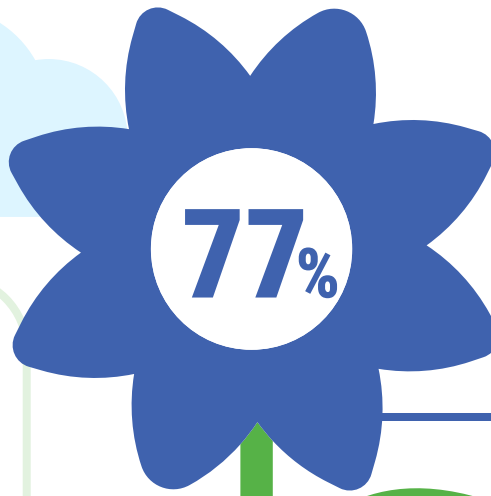
Would recommend our services to others

**Our Families in 2024**

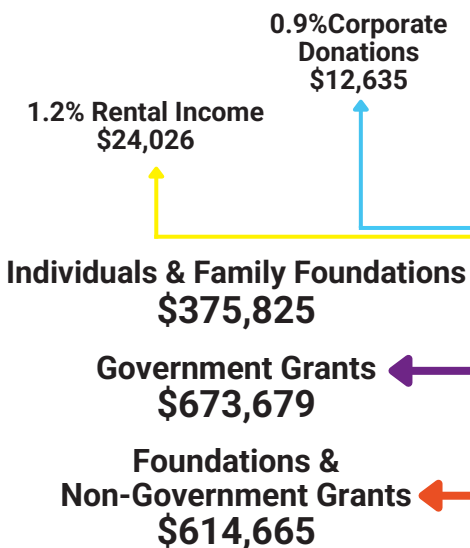
Photo Credit: Laurie Keve

Information obtained from 2024 Parent-Child Center Network Surveys

## Our Financials\* 2024



### Our Sources of Income



### Our Expenses



23%

22.1%

39.6%

36.1%

\*Unaudited

# Our Neighborhood



Photo Credit: Vt Foodbank

At The Family Room, we are dedicated to creating welcoming spaces where families and young children not only feel safe and connected, but also have the opportunity to truly thrive.

Through our vibrant playgroups, nourishing family meals, empowering parent education programs, and our neighborhood collaborations, we provide more than services—we cultivate a sense of belonging. In these spaces, parents find encouragement, children discover joy, and families build resilience together.

When people feel seen, valued, and supported, confidence blossoms, relationships deepen, and children flourish in ways that ripple outward, strengthening our whole community.

Every day, we witness the transformative power of connection.

It sparks hope, inspires growth, and creates a foundation for lasting change.

This isn't just a guiding principle for us—it's at the heart of everything we do.

Connection changes lives, and together, we can build a brighter, stronger future for everyone.



Photo by: Laurie Keve

"The Vermont Foodbank is a proud community partner of The Family Room. The populations that The Family Room supports are also a major focus of the Foodbank in **reducing food insecurity in our communities**. The Foodbank distributes gleaned produce, provides pass-through grant funding to support BIPOC farmers and producers, provides produce and pantry deliveries, listens to community voice to uplift challenges within the community, provides support for 3SquaresVT opportunities, and provides access through the Vermont Diaper Bank. **We are excited to work with The Family room as a partner for impacting people in our community.**"

—Kyle Weatherhogg, VT Foodbank

Vt Foodbank's Amy Boudreaux prepares glazed carrots and gives away supplies

"Established in 2019, the **Building Strong Families Clinic** located at The Family Room provides primary medical care for children in mostly immigrant families. This partnership between the **Vermont Children's Hospital** and The Family Room is rooted in **meeting families where they are**. With bilingual, bicultural Family Strengthening Workers offering support, families feel welcomed, less stressed, and more connected. Medical students and residents witness the power of community partnerships and learn how belonging fosters health. **The Family Room's commitment to children and families is inspiring, and I am deeply grateful for this collaboration.**"

— Andrea Green, MD, Director of the Pediatric New American Program, Vermont Children's Hospital



Photo courtesy of Dr. Andrea Green

*Building a thriving community, one connection at a time.*

## Healing

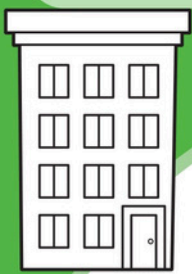
- Community Health Center
- Steps to End Domestic Violence
- The Edge Sports and Fitness
- University of VT Children's Hospital
- UVM Extension - Bridges to Health
- UVM Home Health & Hospice
- UVM Medical Center -VT Child Health Improvement Program (VCHIP)
- VT Dept of Health - WIC

## Food

- Arcana Plants
- City Market Onion River Co-op
- Digger's Mirth Farm
- Feeding Champlain Valley
- Intervale Community Farm
- Mama's Farm
- Red Wagon Plants
- Shelburne Farms
- Village Hydroponics
- VT Foodbank
- VT Garden Network

## Friends & Families

- Building Bright Futures
- Burlington Parks, Rec & Waterfront
- Champlain Housing Trust
- EasterSeals NH & VT
- Fletcher Free Library
- Lund Family Center
- ONE Arts
- Voices for VT's Children
- VT Dept for Children & Families
- VT Humanities Council
- Winooski Valley Park District



**FEEDING**  
Champlain Valley

THE  
**University of Vermont**  
Children's Hospital



**University**  
of Vermont



**Vermont Adult Learning**  
Learning Lasts a Lifetime!





*Our Neighborhood* is more than a place. It is a symbolic community built through the dedication and support of our partners. These organizations have collaborated with us and supported our efforts to expand our reach, connecting families to essential resources and opportunities. We are deeply grateful for their commitment and alignment with our mission, which strengthens our work and creates a network of care and possibility.

*Together, we strengthen families and enrich the community we all share.*

### Learning

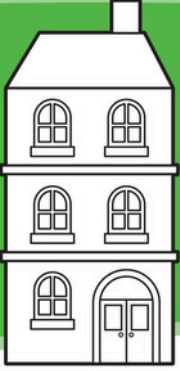
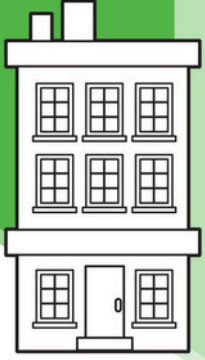
- Burlington School District
- Burlington Early Learning Initiative
- Champlain College
- UVM Department of Education
- UVM Larner College of Medicine
- University of Vermont
- UVM Social, Emotional, and Behavioral Health and Inclusive Education PhD
- VT Adult Learning

### Safety

- Be Seat Smart
- Local Motion

### Community Resources

- Association of Africans Living in VT (AALV)
- Burlington Electric Department
- Burlington Area Community Gardens
- Burlington School District Parent University
- Camp Common Ground Center
- Chittenden Asylum Seekers Assistance Network Inc. CASAN
- City of Burlington - Early Learning Initiative (ELI)
- Committee on Temporary Shelter (COTS)
- ECHO Leahy Center for Lake Champlain
- Efficiency VT (VEIC)
- Help Me Grow VT
- Howard Center
- United Way of Northwest VT
- US Committee on Refugees and Immigrants USCRI - VT Chapter
- VT Asylum Assistance Program
- VT Family Network
- VT Clean Cities Coalition
- VT Gas
- VT Kin as Parents
- VT Legal Aid
- VT Parks Forever



# Our Team



## Our Staff

We strive to hire staff who are representative of the families we serve. Many our staff is bilingual or multilingual and represents at least 5 different countries of origin. These backgrounds, perspectives, and diversity help us better approach families with a lens of equity.

*Photo credit: Stephen Mann  
(at 2024 Family Supper)*

## Our Board of Directors

Our Board of Directors, led by co-chairs Brooke McFarlin and Mick Leddy, have been integral in our success and growth.

We are fortunate to have a very active board who serve on several committees - finance, fund development, communications, and a recently created hiring committee. They are a huge support to the staff and are active in programs, Family Advisory Council, events, and fundraising.

We appreciate their *many* contributions to The Family Room.



*Photos courtesy of The Family Room Board*

## Interested in joining us?

Contact us about joining the Board at:  
[info@thefamilyroomvt.org](mailto:info@thefamilyroomvt.org) or at 802-862-2121  
*Watch our website and social media for staff openings.*

Learn about each of our staff and board members at [www.thefamilyroomvt.org](http://www.thefamilyroomvt.org)



Nell Ishee (left) leading a Baby Massage class at The Family Room

### Why do I volunteer at The Family Room?

*"Over thirty years ago, I first walked into the Family Room when it was in a basement storage area. Today, I'm still here at the ONE Community Center location most Wednesdays, leading baby massage groups.*

*I was hired to start what became the Family Room Preschool, and I quickly found a place that encouraged growth and creativity for both staff and families. **Over the years, I worked in every program** and watched The Family Room evolve into the strong, independent organization it is today.*

*One of my proudest moments was seeing a young mom skillfully massaging her baby—a mom who had once been in the Family Room Preschool herself. It's a powerful reminder of the Family Room's **impact across generations.**"*

**-Nell Ishee**

*"It wasn't until I visited The Family Room that I truly felt welcomed - and that I belonged in my new community. The sense of celebration and connection that I experienced here extends beyond its walls - and inspires me to give back the same kindness and support that I have received."*

**-Family Room parent**

Volunteers are vital to The Family Room community and to our programs!

Explore volunteer opportunities and sign up at

[www.thefamilyroomvt.org](http://www.thefamilyroomvt.org)



## Giving to The Family Room

You can help us by volunteering or donating to The Family Room, and by engaging with us on social media. Your generosity makes a meaningful difference and supports our mission that every family is connected, healthy, and strong.

Platinum Transparency 2024

Candid.

## DONATE



The Janet S. Munt Family Room is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Donations are tax-deductible as allowed by law. Our EIN is 81-5449524.

# What's next?

*"The Family Room has helped me be more self activating. They support me to go and be more!"*  
-Family Room parent

Explore The Family Room through a New Documentary Film! Produced by the talented Champlain College 2024 senior Documentary Film class.



To watch it, visit our YouTube channel or scan this code:



Stay in the know and help spread the word! Find us on:



Contact us at  
[info@thefamilyroomvt.org](mailto:info@thefamilyroomvt.org)

Thank you to Belen Martindale for designing this Impact Report



Photo Credit: Jason Horne

## **Dear Family Room Community,**

*We are in a big transition and there is a lot going on beyond The Family Room walls and our community. As we all know, there will always be obstacles to overcome and that change is a certainty in all of our lives, whether it's a pandemic that rocked our world, a tough economy that challenges our day to day, or federal decision making. The Family Room will endure, adapt, and continue to address the emergent needs and challenges in our community. I am excited and confident that we will rise to the occasion and that The Family Room will embrace new leadership that will uphold the values and commitment that we always strive for to support our families.*

**Thank you for everything!**

**-Josh Miller, Executive Director**

